

“Building Our Sense of Community”

Shelton State Courier

—Campus Newspaper—

New Series Vol. 2, Number 5

Shelton State Community College April 16, 1998-April 30, 1998

Play Ball!



Play Ball with Spring Sports—
The baseball team has formed into a cohesive whole as they push toward the state playoffs; Buc golfer Mark Gargiss works on his putting and looks forward to the Juco championships; Cindy Martin is an all-star candidate as the shortstop for the Lady Buccaneers.



**By Nicole Barker,
Brandon Walker and
Hannah Curlee**

Shelton State's Women's Softball is experiencing a much needed change. After undergoing numerous coaching dilemmas, Bobby Ussery seems to be here to stay.

Right now, Shelton is 10-17. Although Ussery admits they have lost games that should have been

won, he is very optimistic about this team. “The girls are coming together as a team, and are actually acting like they want to play,” he commented.

Sophomore power hitter Emily Watkins says that the progress of this team compared to last year's 4-26 team is due to “good recruits and coaching stability; this team has shown considerable improvement.”

The sophomores have set



good examples for the new recruits. Shortstop Cindy Martin is hitting .550 and Heather Burchfield, Martin's teammate from Brookwood High School, is a spread hitter and very valuable to the lineup. “She will hit the ball anywhere I tell her to,” said Ussery.

The fall will bring with it an

Ball cont'd on pg. 3

Sooooooo Many Ways of Making a Living...

**First in a Series of
Articles about the Many
Interesting “Technical”
Courses of Study at
Shelton State**

By James A. Crawford II

Achieving a bachelor's degree in a field is a wonderful thing, if that's your life's dream but don't rule out the possibility of looking to other areas for your livelihood. You may find something more than a job; you may find a career.

“Technical fields may not be for everybody, but they may be for you,” says Britt Turner, Dean of Shelton State's Technical division.

Shelton State has long sought to promote their technical division as a wonderful alternative to those who just aren't meant for and don't enjoy the world of the liberal arts.

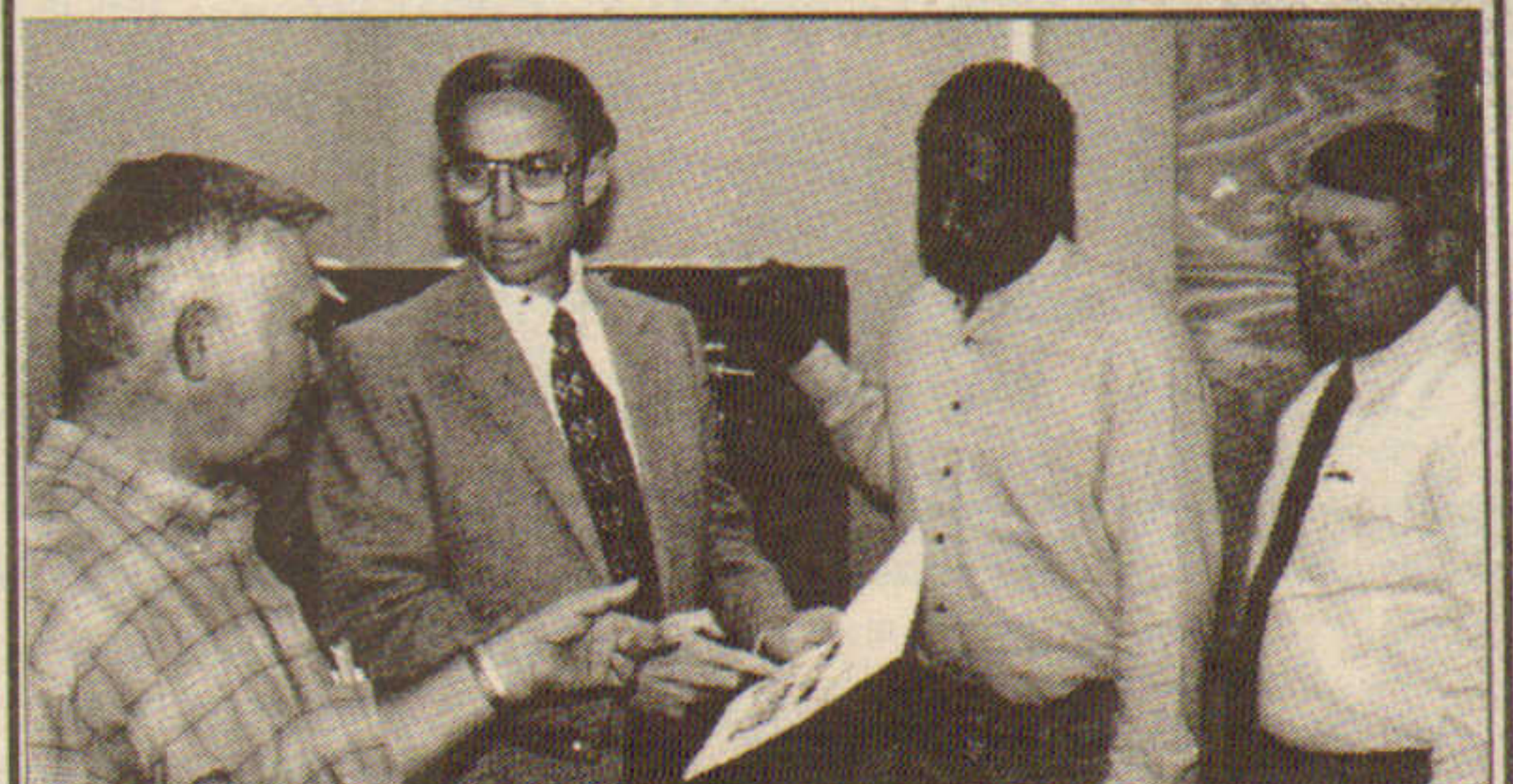
Our jobs have a great deal to do with our position in society. It affects where we live and who our friends are and the opportunities we have throughout life.

“The good life life” doesn't just exist for people with Bachelors degrees, though. An oftentimes overlooked avenue of opportunity is the vast technical classes available which certificate programs.

“In a year you can learn enough to go out and get a good job,” says William Quimby of the industrial electricity technology department.

“I decided on Machine Tool Technology because of the demand. I like working with my hands,” says student Adam Nichols.

Technology cont'd on pg. 3



Discussing Technicalities—William Quimby (L) of industrial electricity technology discusses his program with Shelton vice president Ted Spring, colleague Lorenza Freeman and Technology Dean Britt Turner.

Photo by Blake Mann



The opening of the food court in the atrium of Shelton State was a red-letter day for many, including the Courier. We were able to reward two of our faithful readers and Sodexo puzzle players, Ronda Shirley (R) and Jeanine Collins, with the help of restaurant manager Rafic Akaoui. The court stays open into the evening during the week for night students to catch a hot meal before class.

Photo by Blake Mann

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Future Issues

The *Courier* looks forward to 5 more issues during the spring and summer semesters: late April, May, June, July and August. Let us know what you would like to know about Shelton by calling the publisher at 391-2278.

Viewpoint...

Reach for YOUR Dreams

As an older student at Shelton State I have had to learn the hard way to make time to study. Being a full-time mother, worker, and student is not easy. And I am learning that I am not always right. And keeping my sanity? Well that is another story in itself.

As a senior in high school I worked part-time for Veterans Administration. Though the job was great, the pay was not. At \$3.35 per hour I realized there was no room for advancement.

Shortly thereafter I enlisted in the Air Force. There was no success for me there either.

After the Air Force I had to decide what it was that I really wanted to do with my life. Journalism was the result of the hardest decision of my life. That meant going back to school. Aaaaghh! I haven't been to school in years.

The first couple of semesters were really difficult for me. A lot has changed since I have been be-

hind a desk. And to relearn all this stuff. Wow!

I did however find help in Phillip Coleman. He is director of the Adult Recruitment Program, which was designed to help adults return to school. The ARP is just one of many designed to help older students stay in school—counseling to name one. There is even help for tuition.

As finals approach students start getting on edge. A few even drop out. This reminds me of what my mother use to tell me when I would feel like giving up. "Hold your horses!" she would say. And you know something, she was right. I urge you to stick it out. The end comes nearer every day.

I say this to students both young and old: Stay in school, make the grade, and reach your dreams.

Patricia Richardson

You pay your money, and you make your choice

Not everyone gets a chance to go to college. When I was in high school I thought about that a lot.

After graduating I thought I had plenty of time to find out what I wanted to do with my life, but I was wrong. You never have as much time as you think you do. You better choose some path to follow as soon as you can.

Directly after high school I took a job with a family friend at a local assembly plant building pipe tubing to make heat transfer units. If you think registration lines are long, try walking that same space carrying a couple of hundred of pounds of metal piping, while only earning minimum wage. It is not a very fun thing to do for 12 hours a day.

I lasted in that job for about eight months. I left on bad terms to try my hand in sales. I was fairly successful, but it wasn't a very satisfying career—especially when you don't know where your paycheck will be coming from and how much it will be.

After a few more years of various jobs, I finally made my mind up to go to college. When I first registered, the only thing I thought about was to get a big degree so I could earn lots of money. The funny thing about college, though, is that it actually taught me to think a little bit and consider doing something fun, not just for money.

I was here at Shelton for about

Clips are what count!

If you are majoring in any of the mass communication fields (journalism, advertising, broadcast & film, etc.) you should know that experience is what counts. No matter what your intended field is, you can get the experience you need to get a job by working on *The Shelton State Courier*, a professional newspaper about the college and its surrounding community.

We need students in the following positions:

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- sports writers
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- columnists
- circulation/marketing

Get the experience you need for the job you really want.

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Would you like to help Shelton see the light?

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two years pursuing a degree that would require me to transfer to the University of Alabama to complete the course. Without the degree I would stand no chance of even getting in the door of this particular field. Since, I have switched to journalism and I look forward to the rigors of this profession—as well as the rewards.

I guess the point I'm trying

to make is that nothing seems to happen by magic. I have spent years trying to figure out what I want, and I have been doing it the hard way: one career path at a time.

I truly believe I've settled on journalism, but what about you? Maybe something in my series on "technical" education will appeal to you as writing has to me.

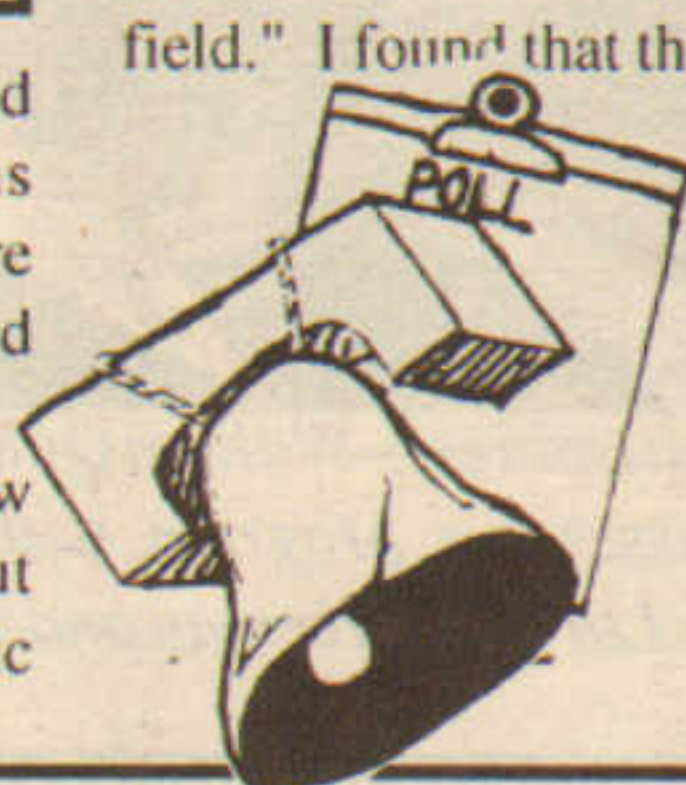
—James A. Crawford II

The Bell Poll

By: Louis Bell

Shelton provides technical and specialized training programs through which students may acquire job skills for employment and workers may upgrade job skills as well. I wanted to find out just how committed students were about earning a degree in an "academic

"Technical" Fields of Study



field." I found that the majority of the 40 students surveyed were either very or somewhat committed to earning an liberal arts degree and

had never thought of switching to a "technical field." However, when I asked the students to choose any technical field they may see themselves studying, I received an interesting variety of answers.

How committed are students to earning an academic degree?

58% - Very Committed
30% - Somewhat Committed
12% - Uncommitted

Have students ever thought of switching to a technical field?

65% - No
35% - Yes

Reason students gave for not wanting to switch to a technical field

38% - Low pay
35% - Low prestige
31% - Boring study
31% - Other (not interested, no talent, like major)

* some people belong to more than one category

Top four technical fields students were interested in

32% - Computer Science
29% - General Business
16% - Electronic Tech.
13% - Nursing

* some people are attracted to more than one field

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Shelton State Courier

Editor: James A. Crawford II
News Editor: Kim Davis

Staff Writers: Chris Bailey,
and members of the MCM
130 class

Illustrator: Anthony Mack

Publisher: Dr. Jim Kenny
Assistant to the Publisher:
Chris Bailey
Advertising Assistant: Jeni
Adams

Production Assistants:
Ashley Arthur and Julie
Massengale

The *Shelton State Courier* is a "campus newspaper" written and produced with the help of students. It is intended as a vehicle for student expression and

all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working with the students in the production of this paper: "The college seeks to provide an atmosphere conducive to open and honest intellectual inquiry in any college forum which is appropriate for dialogue and student participation. The students should feel free to exercise the right to dissent within limits of decorum and good taste."

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

Technology cont'd from

Most people are encouraged at an early age to go to college and get a degree. But what if that's not the life you want to live?

"I think all persons should work somewhere for at least a few months to get an idea of what they want to do. No one in high school wanted to be working for the U.P.S. but they end up there anyway because they dropped out while trying for some big degree," says Michael Akins, a former and future student at Shelton.

For every doctor driving a new car there were twenty or more trained workers who had a hand in putting that car together, each having to build their sections to specific degrees using complicated machinery and techniques with no room for mistakes because just like with the doctor-lives are at stake.

The benefits of being in a behind the scenes occupation is often misunderstood.

"Times have changed, there are different avenues to success

these days," says Turner.

Today's society has been geared into pursuing a big degree due to believing that is the only way to make the big dollars.

Many would be surprised at how much technical fields pay these days.

"The average mechanic nowadays, with all the electronics you have to know, gets paid more than anyone at any of the local plants like Goodrich," says Donnie McKemie, of Barkley-Pontiac-GMC.

If some students realize their aptitude may be more technical than academic, perhaps they should switch fields rather than to waste time and money trying to obtain a degree that they never wanted in the first place.

"I never had an interest in academic fields. A certificate in cosmetology will help me achieve my dreams. I can be my own boss one day and make a better life for my kids," says Carolyn Benson, a local worker who will be attending Shelton in the fall.

Pursuing a Bachelor's degree

isn't always the best route to take when attending college for the first time out.

"If you push kids into trying to be something they don't want to be, they get stressed out. That's why you have kids committing suicide and killing each other, just because of the pressure people put on them to get a degree instead of finding out what they want to do and encouraging that," opines Benson.

The technical division does more than just teach a student in his or her field, it also assists in placing students in local job markets as interns to help them gain some real work experience in their job markets. When filling out a resume this experience can be invaluable in obtaining a job.

"The technical certificates give you a beginning, a starting point. It says you've gotten the training you need to do the job. The training is in reality more valuable than any degree. It makes you marketable. Employers look for people

who are already trained at a job. Real training is hard to get and worth more consideration than a piece of paper," says Dean Turner.

"Having to train someone with a degree but no real experience costs money and takes time away from completing the job," says Mike Talerico, senior program director of the Jackson, Miss. branch of the YMCA and a graduate of Dr. Milady Murphy's programs in well-ness at Shelton.

In today's market, the people who build things are as much or more important than the ones that design them.

The skills needed to run machinery and computers take time to learn and even more time to master.

According to the leaders in Shelton's technical division, one of the best strategies would be to get a technical certificate in your field then work a while and go back to college later to get your degree. This way you have time to learn what you like or don't like about the field while you're earning money,

not wasting it.

"I would hire someone who has worked as an intern any day over someone who has a degree but no real work experience," says Talerico.

According to Ted Spring, vice-president of Shelton State, "Times have changed. In order to be in vocational school now you must have some computer skills and have some mathematical ability. With those basic skills you can enter the vocational field. After a year or two you can go out and be making in the 30-40,000 dollar range in your field."

Looking back on a fulfilling career is a joy most don't think about until it's too late. But the time for a young person to build a career is right out of high school—or as soon as he or she can possibly figure out what to try.

Ball cont'd from pg. 1

exciting transition to fast pitch softball. Alabama Fast Pitch Hall of Famer Paul Morrison will join the coaching staff under Ussery.

The women play their next home game at Bowers Park, next Saturday, April 18, at 2 p.m. Fan support is needed, the coaching staff says, and appreciated.

Buccaneers at Bat

"Hey batter, batter," is one of the many things you hear at a Shelton State baseball game. The team then cheers as their teammate nicknamed "Rosie" smacks another single down the line and drives a runner home. This is the concept of teamwork. Everyone is involved and excited. Sophomore Michael Hester explains "We all get along and work together; it helps us play as a team on the field."

What about the man on the third base line? The one with all the sunflower seeds, giving out all those signals? This is Shelton State's baseball coach Bobby Sprowl.

"Coach Sprowl has been around a long time and even been to the pros; he knows baseball," Hester adds. Sprowl is the definite mastermind behind this team of young talented athletes.

"Our number one goal is to make to the state tournament," says Sprowl. "This year we recruited

mostly freshman, and once they got their feet wet they stepped up their level of play," Sprowl says. Sprowl explains that during prac-

tice the team works on tuning up their skills and staying sharp. "This year our pitching has given us depth and power," Sprowl says. The top

pitching performances this year include Brandon Lee with an ERA of 2.08 with Michael Hester following with an ERA of 2.21.

As of April 15, the top hitting laurels have gone to Wes Catrett with a .391 average, Brian Ball cont'd on pg. 11

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**Astrologer Madam Sosostros Presents a Special Two-Week Horoscope
Exclusively for Shelton State Students**

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Now that you are settled back into your routine after a great spring break, put your best foot forward. Work hard to get those grades up these final few weeks of the semester.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You have a chance to prove your friendship. You have always been a loyal friend, but now there is someone that needs you more than you realize. Be there to support them and help see them through a trying time.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Spring turns your thoughts to romance. Lucky for you that the planets are lining up in your sign. You can look forward to a free and easy whirlwind romance toward the end of the month. Just go slow and enjoy it.

CANCER (June 22-July 23) With this beautiful weather and your love of the sun, you will be tempted to skip classes and bask in it. Danger! Not only do you need to watch soaking up those rays on your winter white skin, but your grades could take a nose-dive too. This is no time to be irresponsible.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23) Confrontation is in your immediate future. Don't let your stubbornness ruin a relationship. Remember compromise can be beneficial, because next time you may HAVE to stand your ground. You alone can decide if this matter is that important.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You have taken a well deserved rest, but now it's time to get back in the saddle. Don't procrastinate. The job has to be done and you are the only one who can do it. You will be rewarded in the end.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Remember the old children's taunt, "Sticks and stones may break my bones..."? Keep it in mind for the next couple of weeks. Someone close to you may seem to be saying some harsh things about you. Don't take them to heart. They can only hurt if you let them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Give your family some extra attention. They are feeling a little left out. Sure you have been busy, but families are important and they love and accept you when no one else will. Don't they deserve a little extra effort on your part?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 24-Dec. 21) Take extra care of your health. Get plenty of rest and eat the right things. You are extremely susceptible to feeling poorly, so anything you can do to head it off will be to your advantage.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) If you seem to be more worried than you should be, it's probably because you have let your fears get the best of you. Sleep on it and tomorrow things will look much brighter.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Your tendency to procrastinate can cause you some extra trouble. It can all be avoided if you will stop daydreaming and do what you should be doing. Now is the time!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) White lies can hurt as much as big ones. Be careful to think before you speak. It really is better to tell the truth and people will definitely respect you more.



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Want to Learn How to Write?

The greatest writing discipline possible comes from learning how to write newspaper journalism. You can learn all of the tricks of the trade this summer from the publisher of the *Shelton State Courier*, Dr. Jim Kenny.

He will be teaching MCM 130—News Reporting—Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Call the registration hotline at (205) 391-2293.

Learn how to write the way Hemingway did!

Q & A: Why did you choose your "technical" field of study?

Interviewed by: Jason Smith

Photos by: Blake Mann



Bo Dyers, Electronics, Gordo

"I saw this field as an opportunity for a good job, good pay, and hands-on experience. I will use this field as a fall back. After graduation i will make a bid for a job, and I have a pretty good chance of getting one with all the education and experience I have had at Shelton."



Adam Nichols, Machine Tool Technology, Fayette

"I decided o this field of study partly because of the demand and partly because of my family. My brother talked me into it, so I have been interested from then on. The pay is good also, but you have to work your way up the ladder of success."



Marcy Simmons, Cosmetology, Oklahoma

"I've always liked it. There is not much demand for it around here. I am using it as something to fall back on. I am going to work in this profession while going to school for an academic degree. If you're good, so is the money."



Denise Phillips, Nursing, Tuscaloosa

"I enjoy nursing. This is something that I have always wanted to do since I was a little girl. I enjoy helping people, especially older people. This is a good field to be in; the jobs are out there. It is very rewarding."



Gina Condra, Nursing, Northport

"I enjoy this field because I like helping people. I decided to pursue this field when I was in high school, and I haven't been tempted to change my mind yet."



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Q. Dennis my indoor plants are not as dark green as I think they should be. Is there anything I can do to perk them up? T. Green

A. You know indoor plants are usually tropical plants that have been adapted for indoor use. They are placed in an environment that is often lacking in light, temperature and suffers from poor air circulation. With all these restrictions they still do well with proper attention and maintenance.

The most important thing to remember is that indoor plants need to be re-potted annually. When selecting a new pot it should always be at least 2 inches larger than the original pot. Be sure that the new potting soil is loose and similar to the original soil.

For those plants that are too large to pick up or otherwise handle then you can use a method called top-dressing. When top-dressing use a tool that will scratch or scarify the top three inches then add fresh soil to replace what you removed.

Always water right after re-potting and fertilize with a complete liquid fertilizer such as 10-10-10 every two weeks or as needed to achieve the desired color.

Remember the more healthy the plants are the more oxygen they will replace into the atmosphere and then your brain will work better. Remembering to water and fertilize plants so they can replace more O₂ is the right thing to do and it's just a full cycle of benefits for everyone.

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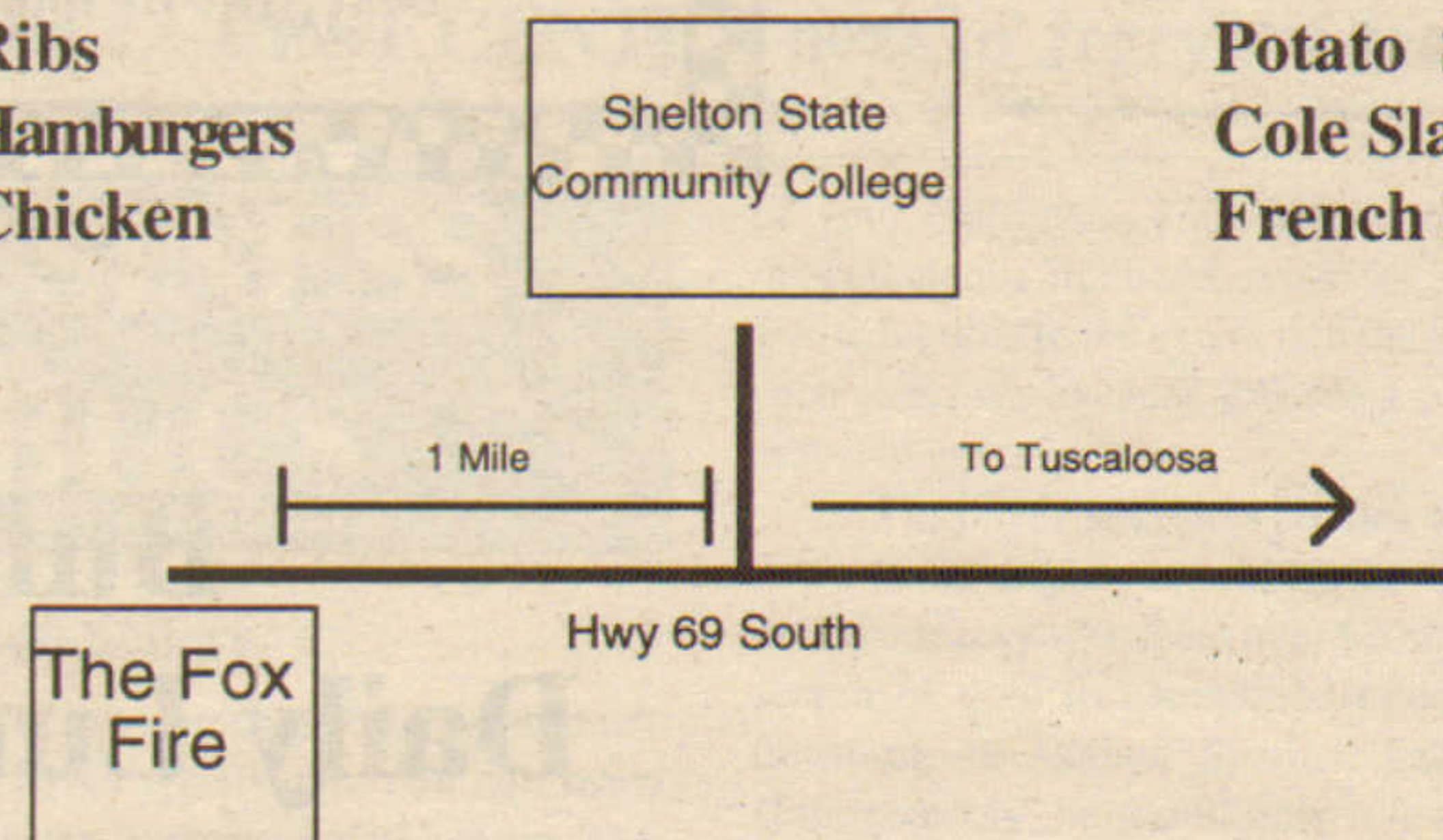
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Scholar Bowl Team soon to defend state championship



By Patricia Richardson

The Scholarbowl is an academic question/answer competition which consists of 25 toss-up questions and a bonus question, which can only be given if all the toss-ups are answered correctly.

There are five to eight competitions a year. And the school provides a budget for lodging and trip fees. The topics the team practices on twice a week include Literature, Science History, Ancient to Current, Math and Geography—to name a few. There are 10 diverse members that make up the team, some of whom are athletes. Only four compete at a time. Starting members are Jon "Chopper" Barnett, Captain, Kevin Windahm, Mark Moore, Phillip White, Patrick McDonald, and Anden Herbert. Other members are Linda Colson, Matthew Bentley, Bart DuPuy, and Tony Humphries.

What attracts some people to the scholarbowl is its competitive atmosphere. For Tony Humphries, a sophomore, it was because he has a love for knowledge. "It's always a challenge for me because I dream of one day being a Jeopardy player,"

Humphries says.

Layton, who holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama and a Masters from University of Alabama at Birmingham, has been head coach for 15 years. She is also registrar, Director of Admissions, at Shelton.

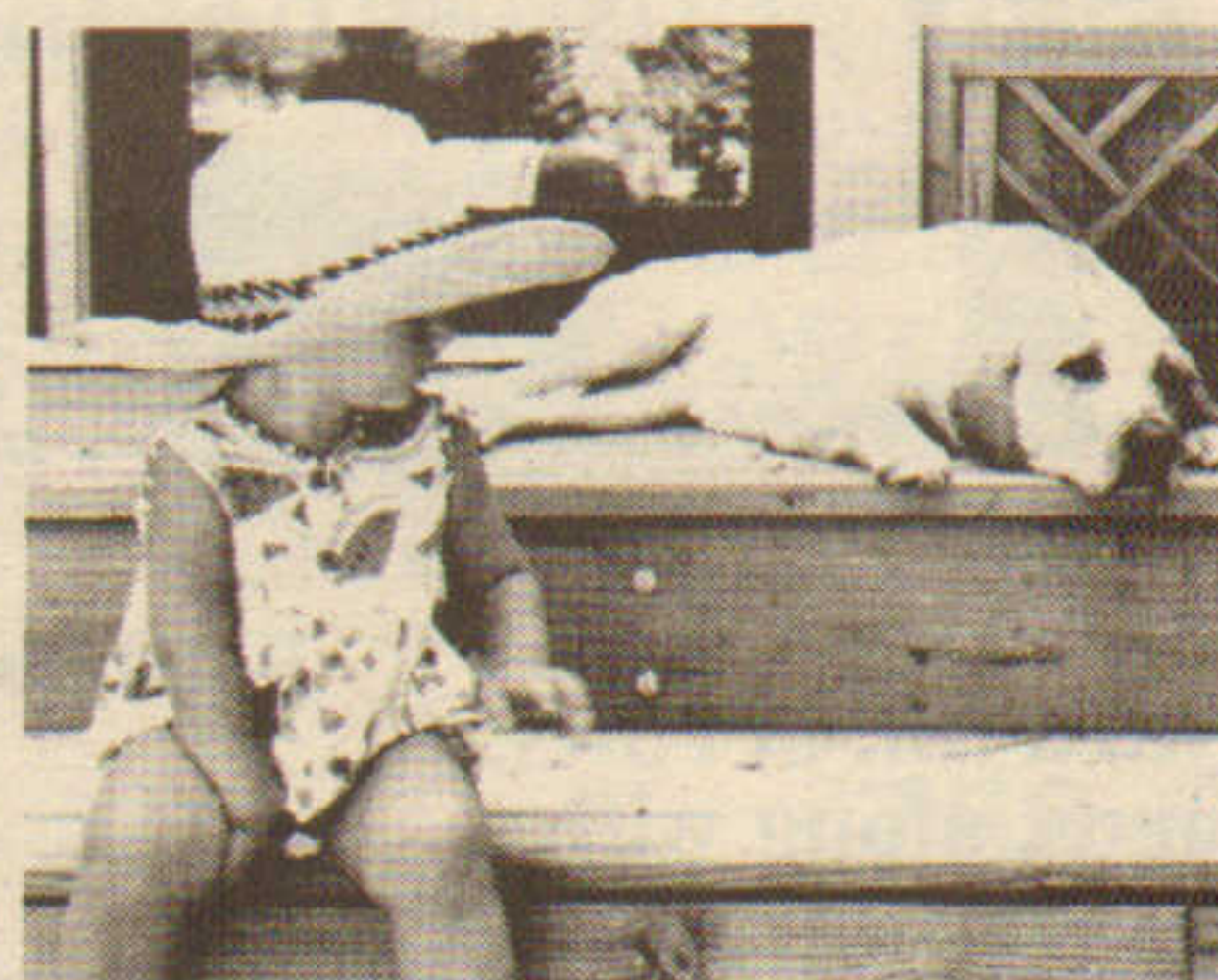
The Shelton State Team had its most successful year during the 1996-97 season. They won the state championship, and Todd Powell captured the Most Valuable Player in the state Award. Out of 28 teams, the Shelton team won both State District Qualifying Competitions and the largest community college competition in Tallahassee, Fla.

According to Coach Layton, "It provides a place for people, for expression. It is an outlet, and it has changed people's lives."

In January the team travelled back to Tallahassee to defend the previously won championship. Through 16 games the team went undefeated. During the final stretch the team lost and finished second.

This month the team will travel to Berry College in Rome, Ga. compete in a tournament with 18 other teams. On April 17, they will defend their State Championship at Troy State University.

Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer ... *anywhere in the world!*

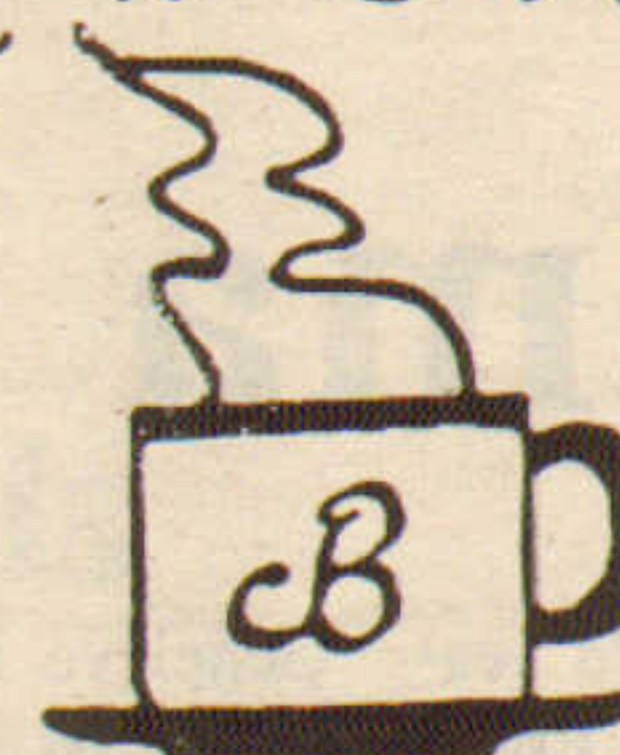


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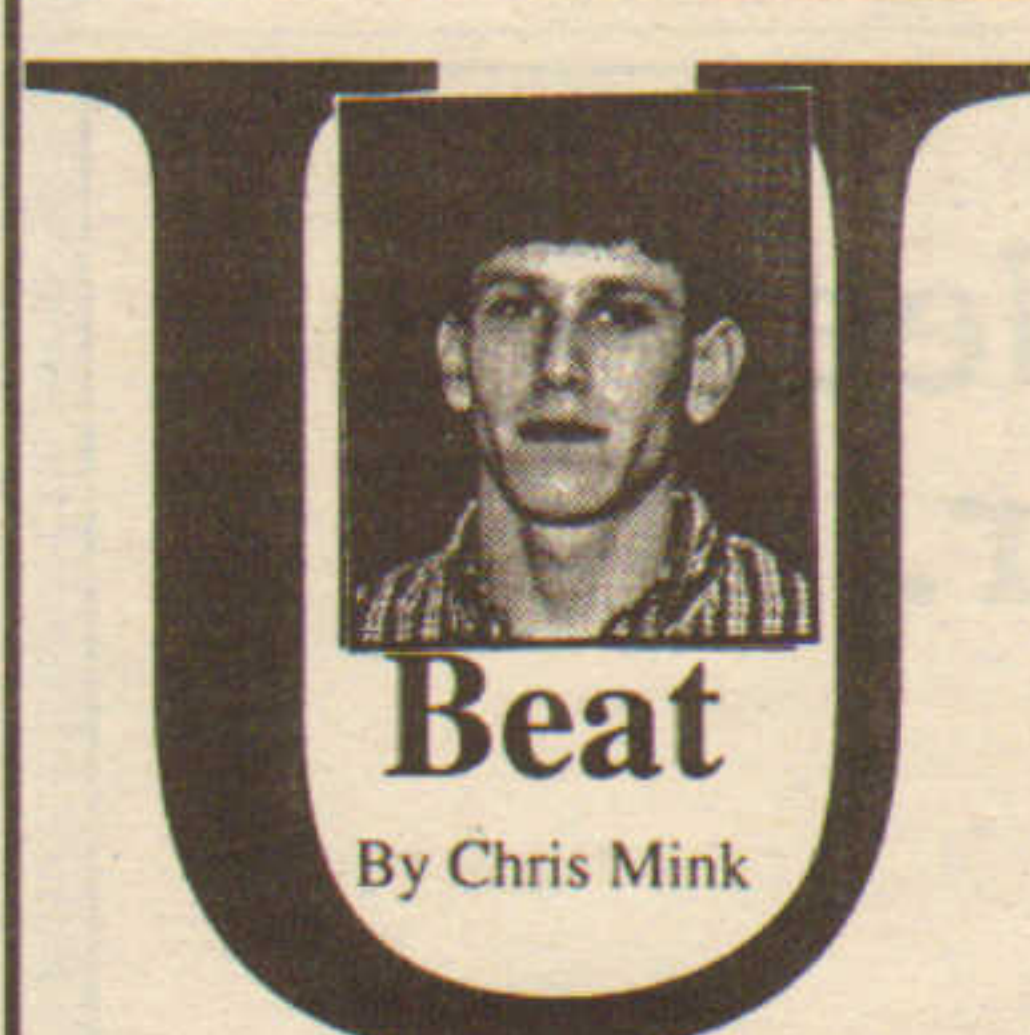
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By Chris Mink

Prowling University Blvd., hanging out on the Strip, haunting the Quad...

Although most of the students will be gone and the nite-life in Tuscaloosa with them, the strip itself will come alive in June when

renovations are set to continue on the University's most popular street.

Long talked about renovations for this street of bars will include flowers, shrubbery, park benches, brick sidewalks and possibly lighted walkways.

These renovations are designed to improve the image and popularity of the strip. It's also an effort to help it stray from the Bourbon Street like atmosphere that can sometimes be created by hundreds of inebriated college students standing in the shadows.

"The strip is getting pretty nasty. Other school campuses have been updated and look great," says University student Jennifer Ward.

The renovation plans are the brainchild of the Strip Association, a joint effort between the city of Tuscaloosa, The U.A. and several establishment owners and managers.

University student Jill Davis agrees improvements are needed, "The strip is old and needs renovating, I think it's an excellent idea."

Most business owners happen to agree.

"These changes will make the strip more attractive to potential students and potential customers. Downtown Tuscaloosa is already in the right direction with some of the things they've done," says Clay Wilson, manager and partner at Buffalo Phil's on the strip.

Renovations aren't on the minds of everyone on campus though.

With the estimated costs of the renovations around 2 million and the possibility of some of this being paid for with higher tuition costs, not all students are in agreement.

"It would be great to make the strip look better and hopefully cleaner, but it's still just a strip of bars. People aren't going to see the strip with a make-over and suddenly start going to bars for different reasons other than to drink," says Bryant Bowder, a sophomore at U.A.

The biggest obstacle to remodeling is the plans themselves.

With the hodgepodge of owners from the University to the city of Tuscaloosa to various business owners, who are not all in unison with their desires for the strip, it will be difficult to come to an agreement for a unified renovation plan.

Five years from now when the renovations are complete, will the strip still be known as a Little Bourbon Street with new sidewalks, added flowers and a few park benches? Or will a new look transform the strip into a bustling attraction center for the city with new businesses to compliment its new look.

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Cabaret returns to the Bama stage

Theatre Tuscaloosa's 1997-98 season concludes with Kander and Ebb's smash-hit *Cabaret* in performance at the Bama Theatre April 24-May 3.

This production will be the fourth staging of *Cabaret* by Theatre Tuscaloosa Executive Producer Paul Looney. Looney directed the show for the University of Alabama Theatre in 1979 and for Theatre Tuscaloosa in 1989. Looney points out, "Susan and I also worked on the show for Birmingham's Town and Gown Theatre. In fact, in that production Susan played 'Brunhilda'."

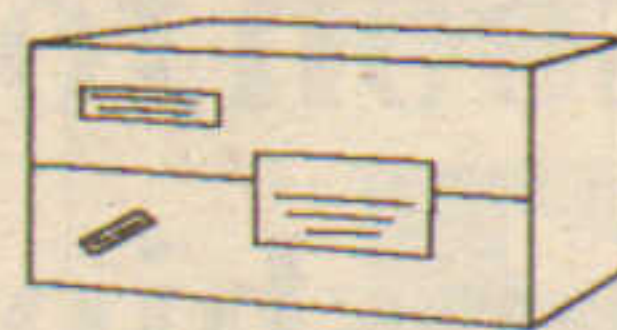
The 1998 production will feature Ray Taylor reprising his role as the M.C. with Deborah Bowman as Sally Bowles, Dan Moore as Cliff, Glenn Johnson as the Customs Official, Charles Prosser as Max, Paul B. Crook as Ernst, Lauren Carr as Frau Schneider, Doug Perry as Schultz and Drew Baker as Frau Kost. Kit Cat Girls are played by Jennifer Smiles, Julie Schelleci, Kelly McCulloch Meredith Riley, Kristina Hodge,

Geneieve McKee and Michelle Hamff. Other cast members include Katie Sullivan, Lisa Waldrop, Cynthia Martin, Julie Arrington, Karen Siranno, Susie Johnson, Lucricia Latham, Philip Bambarger, Kevin Jackson, Lee Fowler, Kyle Everett, Johnny Mack Standridge, Eric Walker, Desmond Porbeni, Leif Evans, and Eric Hall.

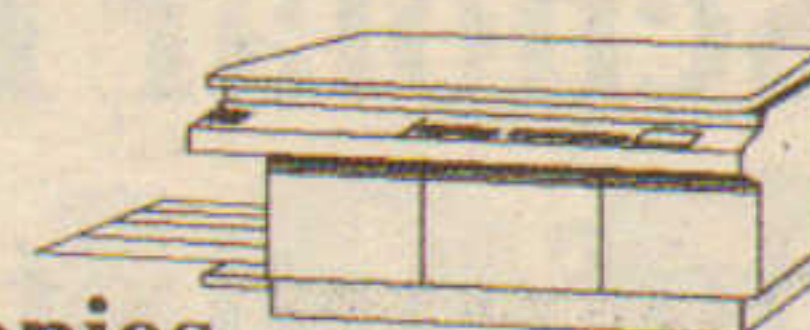
The artistic team for the production, in addition to Looney, includes musical director William Henderson, choreographer Susan Looney, scenic designer Andy Fitch, costume designer Daryl Harris, lighting designer John Hisey and production stage manager Kim Davis.

"Cabaret is one of the most significant shows in my career as a director," said Paul Looney. "In our first production, Susan and I were fortunate to work with Ed Nolfe, who had served as Dance Captain in the original Broadway production. That was my introduction to the choreography of Ron Field, the man behind the 'Bob Fosse style'."

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BUSINESS BUC\$

By Brian Sellers

When it comes to taxes, you don't have to be an April fool. You can learn from the tax experiences of others. The following tax stories are to help you stay current on the tax law and keep out of trouble with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Comic book expenses no laughing matter.

A University professor agreed to serve as an advisor to an after-school comic book club, although he was not required to do so. Over the course of a three-year period, he purchased over 16,000 comic books which he claimed was required for him to perform his duties for the book club. He racked up \$30,000 in expenses and then claimed the expenses as an unreimbursed employee business expense. The IRS disallowed the deductions, stating that after-school activities are not part of his job. The Tax Court sided with the IRS, stating that the expenses were not reasonable. Tesar, TC Memo 1997-207 5/5/97 Tax moral- Generally, unreimbursed employee business expenses may qualify for a deduction if they are incurred because they are required by or for the convenience

of your employer. They are considered miscellaneous itemized expenses, which are deductible to the extent that the total of such expenses exceeds 2 Percent of your adjusted gross income.

Taxpayer searches for pot of gold

Believing he could strike it rich quick, one taxpayer spent over \$200,000 in search of gold in abandoned mines and treasures on sunken Spanish galleons. Unfortunately, he found only a few gold coins. However, he decided to turn to the IRS for a tax deduction, claiming \$200,000 in losses. The IRS denied the deduction, claiming that his search for treasure was a hobby and not a business. However, the tax Court disagreed and ruled in the taxpayer's favor, stating that, despite his losses, the taxpayer had a valid profit motive. Harrison, TC Memo 1996-509 Tax moral- The question of whether an activity is a hobby or sideline business arises when losses are incurred. To prove the losses stem from a business, you generally must show a profit in at least three of the last five years or demonstrate a profit motive.

Racing to a tax deduction

A business owner who enjoyed racing cars decided to have his company sponsor driving. He then deducted the cost of racing as a business expense. Although the IRS denied the deduction, saying the racing was a hobby, the tax Court overruled the IRS's decision, pointing out that the race sponsorship resulted in good publicity for the business. Larry O. Gill, TC Memo 1994-92, affd CA-5.

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Shelton club tennis teams gain notice with intense, competitive play

The Shelton State Men's Club Tennis Team dropped a close 5-4 match to Alabama Southern Community College March 6.

"Our number three player was unable to play today and that forced us to move everyone below him up one level. As a result we were weakened at our number 2 and 3 doubles and 4-6 singles. Had he played we probably would have beaten them 6-3" said Coach Brian Sellers.

"We didn't play our best tennis today, but you have to credit Shelton State for playing some exciting tennis. It is amazing at what Coach Sellers has been able to accomplish without any scholarships or operating funds," said Coach Ray Sasser of Alabama Southern.

Indian Hills Head Pro Keith Swindoll commented on the commencement of play by the club tennis teams: "I am excited to see Shelton State promoting intercollegiate tennis and I will do anything I can to help them in this endeavor. I hope they will go ahead with funding for a women's team in the fall of 1998. When you consider that Shelton is this competitive without scholarships and all their competition provides eight scholarships for men and eight women, imagine how powerful they will be with scholarships and operating

funds. I think it speaks volumes about the talent we have here in Tuscaloosa."

The college hosted its first home match April 13, and the women's club team defeated Judson College 6-0. The Buccaneer squad dominated play in each of its four singles matches as well as the two doubles contests.

Sellers was thankful for the landmark contest—and win. "Since our team is merely a club team, other teams in our region do not have to play us. So we are extremely appreciative to Coach Beth Sutton and Judson for coming here today," Sellers said.

"I'll take my top three players over any junior college players in our region," said Sellers. "They are that good. It's unfortunate that we don't have scholarships to offer them; however, I'm working on that."

Sellers says he has submitted a 19-page proposal outlining women's tennis at Shelton, including their plans for promoting the sport in the local community.

Sellers says he is aware that funding is tight at the college right now because of the move to the new campus and the fact that the old facilities have yet to be sold. "We may not receive funding this year, but eventually women's tennis will be a part of the official sports program at Shelton," Sellers said.

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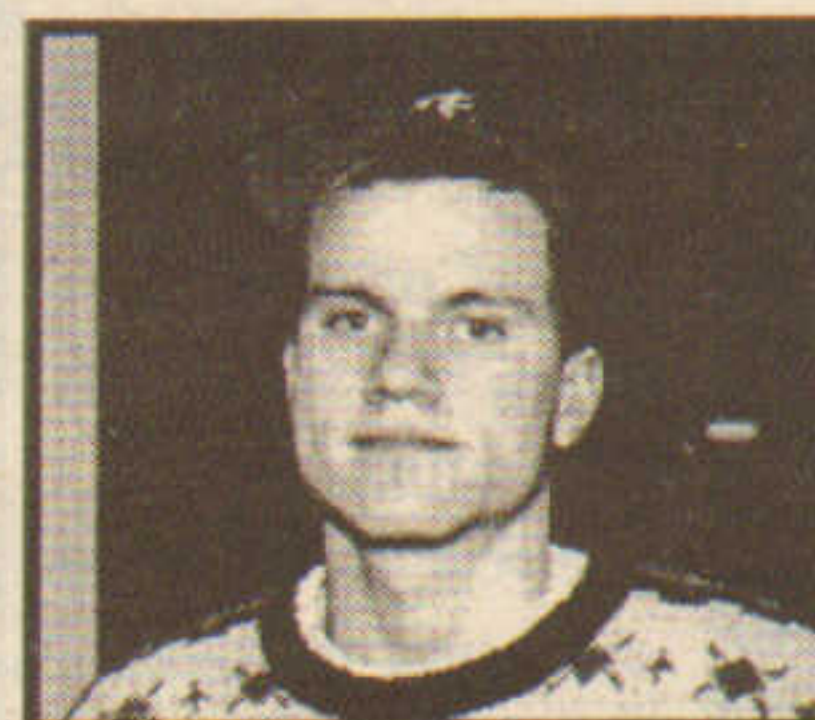
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Roberts reviews...



By Brian Roberts

Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple II*

The popularity of many of today's movies is driven by the young actors and actresses in Hollywood. We flock to the theatres to see the pretty faces and admire the hard bodies.

So why is it that two men over the age of 70 are able to carry a successful movie?

Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple II* (yes, "Doc's" name is an official part of the title) starring Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau opened in theatres Friday. Lemmon is 73; Matthau is 78. They return to their roles as the anal-retentive Felix Ungar (Lemmon) and the compulsively vulgar Oscar Madison (Matthau) from the 1968 film. In *Neil Simon's The Odd Couple*, the pair has once again found a way to let their charming humor make a movie enjoyable.

It's been 17 years since the two have seen each other, and unbeknownst to them both, Ungar's daughter and Madison's son have met and decided to get married. Ungar lives in New York, while Madison has retired to Florida. The two decide to meet in Los Angeles and drive to the wedding together in the suburb of San Melina. Needless to say, nothing goes right for them, and their short drive becomes as two-day trip.

While there are supporting characters thrown in to make the movie flow, the vast majority of the screen time is occupied by the two stars who have found themselves together on screen for the 11th time in their careers, which now

span five decades.

Lemmon's career began in 1954 with the film *Phffft*. He has been nominated for the Oscar for best actor eight times, winning the award in 1974 for *Save the Tiger*. He also won the Oscar for the best supporting actor in 1955 for *Mister Roberts*.

Matthau's career started one year later in 1955 with *The Indian Fighter*. He has twice been nominated for best Oscars and won the best supporting actor Oscar in 1967 for *The Fortune Cookie*.

It was *The Fortune Cookie*, released in 1966, that brought Lemmon and Matthau on screen together for the first time. Two years later they started in original *Odd Couple*. It was in 1993 that the pair touched the X-generation with *Grumpy Old Men*. This film caused a resurgence in their popularity, and led to the 1995 sequel *Grumpier Old Men*, which was directed by Howard Deutch—the director of *The Odd Couple II*.

Public perception is that people in their 70s are different. That perception leads to shock when you see them acting just like anyone else. This worked at the opposite end of the age spectrum with movies like *Jerry McGuire*. Lemmon and Matthau are playing characters but they are also playing themselves—and that is a key to understanding and appreciating their recent movies. They are truly indicative of people their age—and so of people any age.

Neil Simon's The Odd Couple II is now playing at the Bama Six nightly at 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m., with matinee shows on the weekend. Rated pg-13.

BULLETIN BOARD

By Kimberly Davis

April being Sexual Assault Awareness month there is a variety of projects in swing.

The Clothesline project is a display of t-shirts that have been for victim of violence. You can see the display April 20-21 in the Heritage room located in the University of Alabama's Ferguson Center. The project will also be displayed April 22-23 in the Atrium in the Martin Campus at Shelton State.

On April 20-21 Breaking the Silence—Violence Against Women, A free 2 day conference for college faculty, administrators, and students about dealing with violence. For registration call 348-5040.

Are you a Christian? Then don't forget to pick up your application for the A.H. Bean Endowed Scholarship.

The primary purpose of this scholarship and its committee is to encourage the growth of Christianity.

Applicants must be a Christian and an active member of the church. Applications can be picked up at the office of the Dean of students. Completed applications should be sent to the A.H. Bean Foundation Board of Governors at Regions Bank, P.O. Box 2509, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35407 by June 15 for Fall or October 15 for Spring.

Congratulations, Dr. Jim Jolly, for naming the Shelton State's new computer network.

The name SHELNET was selected out of two dozen other entries.

For submitting the winning entry Jolly won dinner for two at Cypress Inn.

Diane Layton is runner up in the contest. She won lunch for two at the Globe.

Sandra Ray was one of 300 people that attended the **Alabama State Fire College dedication of the new building on Monday, April 13.** She praised the fire college and told tales of the blaze that almost ate her home town of Brookwood.

The new building was completed in February and classes began on March 2. Thomas Taylor, division Director of Planning and Financing said the building cost roughly \$5 million which was supplied by State Appropriations.

Along with the new building came new names for roads that is. The City of Tuscaloosa has dubbed the roadway directly in front of the Fire College "Fire College Drive."

Sodexho Puzzler By: Chris Bailey & Ashley Arthur

Turn completed puzzles into the box provided in the atrium to be entered into a drawing for a gift provided by the SODEXHO food court

Name: _____ Ph. # _____

Across

1. Plays Cliff in upcoming play.

2. & 3. Future Cosmetology student

4. Theatre Tuscaloosa's spring play

5. Fastpitch Hall of Fame member

6. T-shirt display for battered women

Down

1. Plays Sally in upcoming play

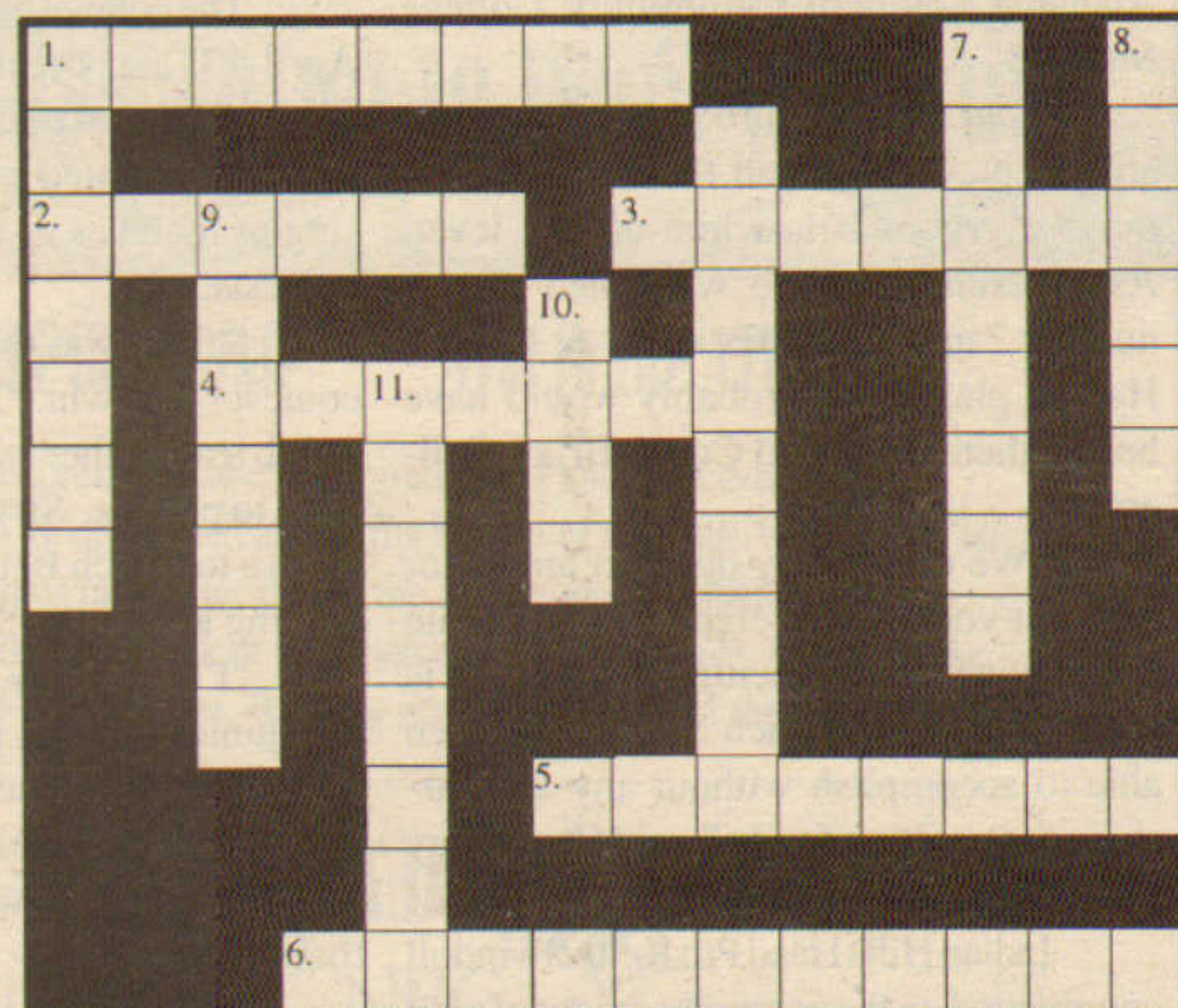
7. Program Director of Jackson YMCA

8. Coached by Brian Sellers

9. Student in Technical Division

10. Dean of Technical Division

11. Springtime sport



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"Princess Tree"

"Princess Tree" or "Royal Paulownia" is named after Anna Paulownia, Princess of the Netherlands. This average sized tree has escaped cultivation and can now be found growing wild throughout the Southeast. The tubular, lavender flowers occur in large conspicuous clusters in the very hairy and heart-shaped (cordate). These trees were often planted around houses for both shade and flower color. The fruits are cone-shaped capsules that resemble cotton balls. The "Princess Tree" has the distinction of being one of the fastest growing trees found in North America, growing as much as 20 inches in a single season. Another unusual characteristic of this plant is its pith, or center of stem which is hollow.

By Chris Haynes,
Biology Instructor



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Ball cont'd from pg. 3

Davis with a .375 and Philip Holmes with a .348. Holmes leads the team with six home runs, followed by Lance Ingram with four. Hester has proven to be an offense threat as well as an outstanding pitcher by hitting over .300 with three homeruns.

The team's current record is 17-15.

The Buccaneers urge all baseball fans come to the Veterans Administration field (home field until one is built on the Martin campus) and support this team as they work towards advancing to the state tournament.

Remaining home games this season are a doubleheader against Southern Union at 1 p.m. April 18, another doubleheader against Central Alabama at 1 p.m. on April 25, a 7 p.m. game at Hillcrest H.S. against Jeff State on April 27, and a final doubleheader against Bishop State at 1 p.m. on May 2.

On the Links

Compared to their performances last year, the Shelton linksters would seem to be off their stride. After all, they won seven tournaments outright a year ago, were rated number one in junior colleges all year and lost only in the last round of the national tournament in some unpropitious precipitation.

The year's team has no tournament wins, but that is misleading, according to third-year assistant coach Corey Gibbs. "We have struggled some, but are coming along nicely. We have beaten everybody we've played in our division, except for one team. We should be ready for the national tournament when the time comes."

On March 21, Shelton finished second among eight teams at the Marion Military Institute Invitational, with All-America Brian Hinnant taking the medalist honors with a one over par 145. Scott Hinnant, Brian's twin brother took second place, two strokes back.

On April 7, the golfing Bucs came in first among Division II teams and fifth out of all ten teams at their own tournament, the Hidden Meadows Invitational.

Golfing fans have a few more opportunities to take advantage of some beautiful spring days by catching the team on the

links. April 19-21, the team travels to Cullman for the Wallace State Invitational.

April 28 they will be playing in a one-day event in Lannet, Ala.

The Alabama State Junior College Championships will be held in Morgan City May 3-5.

The national Juco tournament takes place May 30-June 5 near Pinehurst, N.C.

This year's team consists of 10 players and each must play his way onto the playing squad with practice rounds each week. According to assistant coach Gibbs, "Golf is an individual sport, but if one man has a bad day, he knows he has his teammates trying to pick him up. It's crucial that guys learn to play as a team even though they seem to be out there alone."

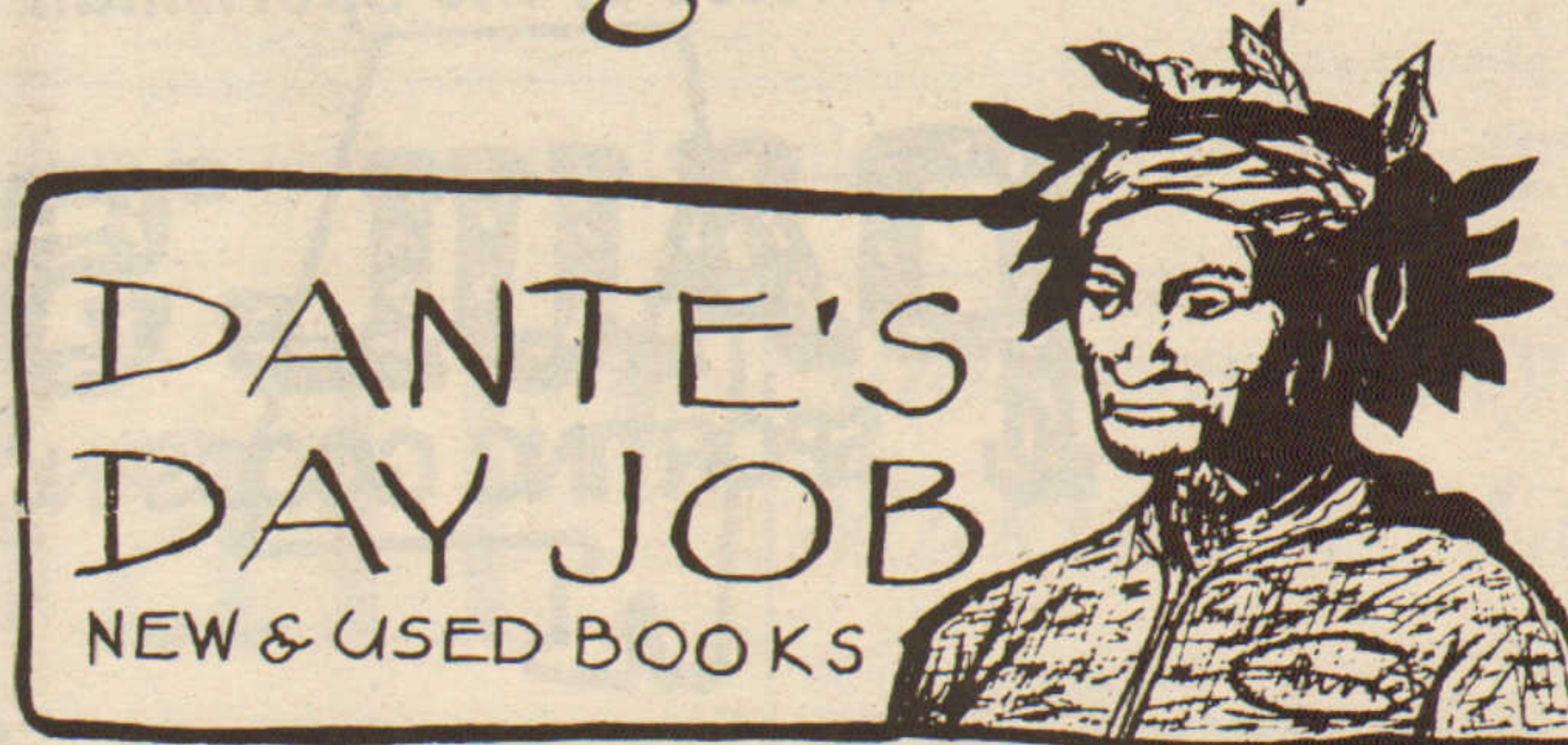
The team plays practice rounds at most of the area courses. Brian Hinnant said that to prepare for a tournament, the team "practices a lot, and especially works on putting. But most of the preparation, though, is mental."

As with any sport, tradition plays an important role in overall program success. Head Coach Jim Collins thinks Shelton is on its way to establishing itself. "I takes a good while to build a reputation, but I think we are headed that way."



Scott Hinnant works on his short game

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All-Americans and their Prez—Two Shelton State students were recently named to the USA Today's "All-USA Academic Team." Enjoying the gala evening of feasting and congratulating at Birmingham's Wynfrey Hotel were third-teamer Kevin Windham and second-teamer Meredith Mettee. Unable and unwilling to hide his pride in his students is Shelton president Tom Umphrey.

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